



U.S. Travel and Tourism Satellite Accounts

The U.S. travel and tourism satellite accounts show a detailed picture of the travel and tourism industries and their role in the U.S. economy (see table 1). These accounts were developed by the Bureau of Economic Analysis, with the support of the Tourism Industries Office of the International Trade Administration, in order to more accurately measure the contribution of travel and tourism to the economy.

These accounts present estimates of the expenditures by tourists, or visitors, for 19 types of commodities (see table 2) and estimates of the output of 19 travel and tourism industries. The accounts also present estimates of the income generated by travel and tourism and estimates of employment in the travel and tourism industries.

The travel and tourism accounts are extensions of the U.S. input-output accounts. The methods that are used to prepare the travel and tourism accounts are consistent with the methods used to estimate U.S. gross domestic product, national income, and other national economic measures.

The travel and tourism satellite accounts show

- The total sales of travel industries, like airlines, and of tourism industries, like hotels
- The expenditures for tourism as a share of GDP
- The value added by tourism industries
- The employment and employee compensation accounted for by the travel and tourism industries
- The demand for tourism (measured by tourists' spending)

In order to provide more timely information, the accounts have been expanded to provide quarterly estimates of the sales of tourism industries. (These estimates are based on the estimates of personal

consumption expenditures from the national income and product accounts.)

Uses of the accounts

The travel and tourism satellite accounts can be used to determine the size of tourism and the components of travel and tourism.

Specifically, these accounts can be used

- To determine the shares of the goods and services that were sold to visitors and the shares that were sold to local residents
- To assess the effect of travel and tourism on the U.S. economy
- To examine the relationship among the travel and tourism industries
- To determine the expenditures of tourists
- To compare travel and tourism industries to other manufacturing and services industries

Availability

For more detailed information, see the article on the accounts for 1996 and 1997 by Sumiye Okubo and David Kass that was published in the July 2000 SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS, the monthly journal of the Bureau. This article is also available on our Web site.

For more information

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The estimates are available on our Web site at www.bea.gov.

Table 1. Key Indicators of Travel and Tourism Activity in 1992, 1996, and 1997

	Demand	Value added	Employment
Level			
1992.....	\$284.2–\$332.8 billion	\$120,500–\$135,700	3,749–4,353
1996.....	\$370.7–\$437.5 billion	\$160,200–\$186,300	4,255–5,206
1997.....	\$392.4–\$462.3 billion	\$172,300–\$200,600	4,302–5,263
Share			
1992.....	4.6–5.3 percent	1.9–2.2 percent	3.2–3.7 percent
1996.....	4.7–5.6 percent	2.1–2.4 percent	3.4–4.1 percent
1997.....	4.7–5.6 percent	2.1–2.4 percent	3.3–4.0 percent
Average annual growth rate			
1992–96.....	6.9–7.1 percent	7.4–8.2 percent	3.2–4.6 percent
1992–97.....	6.7–6.8 percent	7.4–8.1 percent	2.8–3.9 percent

Table 2. Tourism Demand by Commodity in 1992, 1996, and 1997

[Millions of dollars in purchasers' prices]

Commodity	Tourism demand			Average annual growth rate	
	1992	1996	1997	1992–96	1992–97
Hotels and lodging places.....	56,577	70,229	74,103	5.6	5.5
Eating and drinking places.....	48,685	58,256	61,022	4.6	4.6
Passenger rail.....	1,226	1,217	1,296	-0.2	1.1
Passenger bus and other local transportation.....	3,934	4,603	4,841	4.0	4.2
Taxicabs.....	3,002	4,043	4,298	7.7	7.4
Domestic passenger air fares.....	48,466	60,529	64,856	5.7	6.0
International air fares.....	32,159	40,760	45,156	6.1	7.0
Passenger water.....	4,150	4,490	4,384	2.0	1.1
Auto and truck rental.....	12,132	20,553	21,092	14.1	11.7
Other vehicle rental.....	209	452	485	21.3	18.3
Arrangement of passenger transportation.....	2,919	3,761	3,766	6.5	5.2
Recreation and entertainment.....	15,500	29,434	32,202	17.4	15.7
Participant sports.....	3,678	5,103	5,311	8.5	7.6
Movie, theater, ballet, and musical events.....	4,673	5,987	6,511	6.4	6.9
Sports events.....	1,385	1,738	1,763	5.8	4.9
Travel by U.S. residents abroad.....	39,964	49,452	53,451	5.5	6.0
Gasoline and oil.....	11,864	14,217	14,371	4.6	3.9
Personal consumption expenditure nondurable commodities other than gasoline and oil.....	37,362	50,722	52,745	7.9	7.1
Parking, automotive repair, and highway tolls.....	7,008	9,066	9,514	6.6	6.3
Total.....	334,893	434,613	461,166	6.7	6.6